

Kern County Hospital Authority
Board of Governors
Public Meeting Protocol and Instructions for Providing Public Comment
during Board Meetings due to Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic

On March 17, 2020 Governor Newsom issued Executive Order N-29-20 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. These orders specified relaxed provisions of meetings under the Ralph M. Brown Act (California's open meeting law; "Brown Act") allowing meetings to be conducted through teleconferencing. Executive Order N-29-20 expired on September 30, 2021. In response, on September 16, 2021, Governor Newsom signed Assembly Bill (AB) 361, which amends Government Code Section 54953 clarifying the Brown Act regulations and restrictions relating to the use of teleconferencing to conduct public meetings.

The Kern County Hospital Authority hereby provides notice that as a result of the declared federal, state, and local emergencies due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and in light of the Governor's order, **this Board of Governors meeting will not be physically open to the public**. You may address the Board via email (Option #1) or telephonically (Option #2) or internet-based service option (Option #3) as outlined below. Consistent with the Executive Order, Board members may elect to attend the meeting telephonically and to participate in the meeting to the same extent as if they were physically present.

Based on guidance from the California Governor's Office and Department of Public Health, as well as the County Health Officer, in order to minimize the potential spread of the COVID-19 Virus, please use the following instructions:

Option #1: Submit your comment on a specific agenda item or for providing general public comment under Public Presentations via email to publiccomment@kernmedical.com no later than 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 18, 2022, the day of the Board meeting. Please include your name and clearly indicate the agenda item number you wish to address.

Option #2: You may comment by calling (661) 326-2611 to leave a voicemail of no more than two minutes in length, no later than 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 18, 2022, the day prior to the Board meeting. Please state and spell your name at the beginning of your message and clearly indicate the agenda item number you wish to address.

Option #3: You may provide testimony or public comment via teleconference by calling 1-415-915-2056 conference id: 281 032 391# at 11:25am to allow ample time to join the meeting Wednesday, January 19, 2022. Please wait on the line until your call is recognized and you are prompted to provide your testimony or public comment of no more than two minutes in length. Please state and spell your name and clearly indicate the agenda item number you wish to address.

All public comments received by email or voicemail are provided to all Board members and applicable staff, for review and consideration by the Board prior to taking action on any matters listed on the agenda and are incorporated into the official record of the Board meeting.